GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:308
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2000
COMMUNICATION CENTRES IN PANCHAYATS
AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA;MANI SHANKAR AIYAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide fully equipped communication centers to all panchayats;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the extent to which this objective has already been attained, State-wise; and

(d) the time by which the said centers are likely to be provided in all the panchayats of the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a)&(b): There is no proposal, at present, to provide fully equipped communication centres to all panchayats. However, Telecommunication facilities are being provided to all the villages including the panchayat villages. Among various Telecommunication facilities, village public telephones(VPTs) have been provided to 3,76,068 villages out of total 6,07,491 villages in India. This includes the 1,96,883 panchayat villages out of 2,39,811 panchayat villages which have been provided with VPTs. Status of VPTs installed in Panchayat village, Circle wise, is given in the annexure.

(c)&(d): The remaining 2,31,923 villages including 42,928 panchayat villages have been planned to be provided with VPTs progressively by March, 2002.

Annexure

Circlewise Status of Panchayat Villages with VPTs as on 1-6-2000.

S.No.	Name of the Circle	Number of Panchayat Vill.	Villages Provided with VPT	Remaining Panchayat Villages
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	67	67	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	19533	18256	1277
3.	Assam	2486	2094	392
4.	Bihar	11792	6855	4937
5.	Gujarat	13510	12410	1100
6.	Haryana	5946	5946	0
7	Himachal Pradesh	2922	2584	338
8.	J&K	1461	874	587
9.	Karnataka	5692	5419	273
10.	Kerala	982	982	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	31168	24089	7079
12.	Maharashta	24937	22917	2020
13.	North East	4347	2542	1805
14.	Orissa	5261	5010	251
15.	Punjab	12477	11975	502
16.	Rajasthan	9184	8620	564
17.	Tamil Nadu	13126	13111	15

18. Uttar Pradesh -East	51262	34244	17018
19. Uttar Pradesh- West	19674	14998	4676
20. West Bengal	3325	3278	47
21. Calcutta	468	421	47
22. DELHI	191	191	0
TOTAL	239811	196883	42928